

Project Description

As part of the Appalachian Development Act of 1965, Congress authorized construction of the Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS). The intent of the ADHS was to generate economic development, supplement the interstate system, and provide access to areas within the region, as well as to markets in the rest of the nation (ARC 2009). Route 460 is designated Corridor Q, an approved ADHS Corridor, and extends from Shelbiana, Kentucky to Interstate 81 near Christiansburg, Virginia. Corridor Q includes the **Corridor Q: Route 460/121 Poplar Creek Phase B Project**.

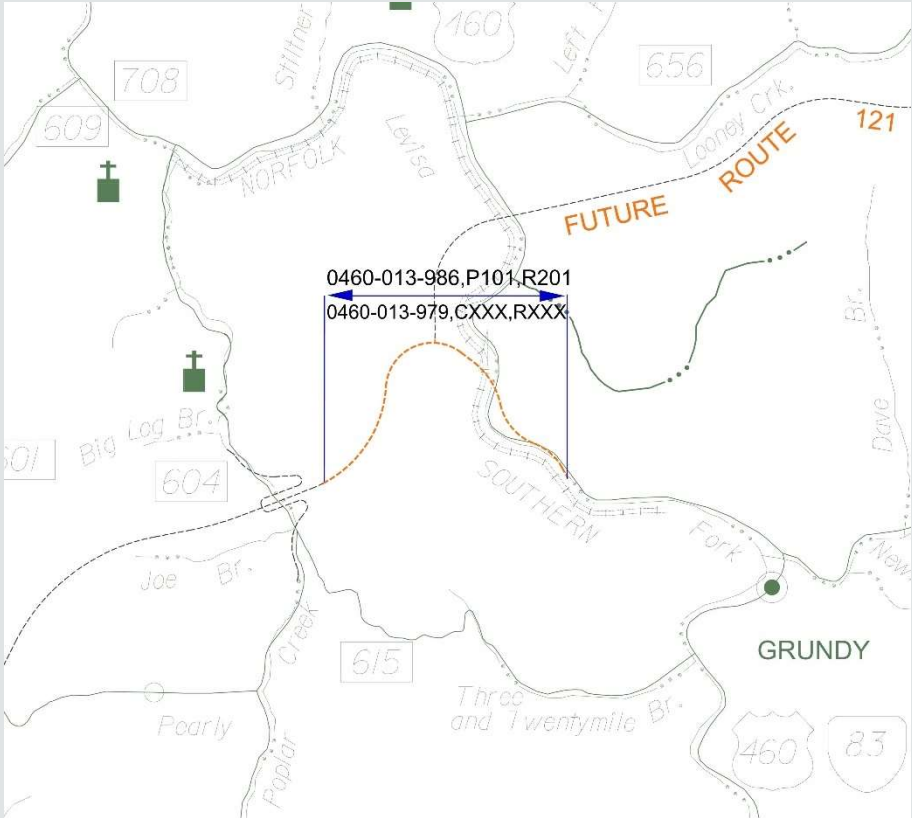
The project is a proposed 1.86-mile, two-lane limited access highway to be constructed from the east end of Route 460/121 Poplar Creek Phase A section near Route 604 (Poplar Creek Road) to existing Route 460 in Grundy. The project includes a proposed bridge that crosses the Levisa Fork River and an at-grade intersection with existing Route 460.

The project will involve a break in limited access. When completed, motorists will have one travel lane in each direction with truck climbing lanes where needed.

The project will be designed and constructed in compliance with stormwater regulations and Virginia Department of Environmental Quality standards and specifications, as well as nationwide best practices, VDOT specifications and special provisions, and the Virginia Department of Soil and Water Conservation regulations. During construction every reasonable effort will be made to protect the environment with respect to dust and erosion control.

Because the majority of work is being performed on a new location, impacts to traffic will be minimal during construction.

Map



Estimated Project Cost

Total Cost:
\$200 million

Engineering of Roadway Plans:
\$25 million

Right of Way Acquisition, Relocation Assistance and Utility Relocation:
\$13 million

Construction:
\$162 million

Because development of the project is in early design stages, this cost is subject to change. The project will be financed using federal funds.

Environmental Review

In February 2015, the Commonwealth Transportation Board approved the location of Alternative F1 Modified for US 121 Section IIIB, which extends from east of the Route 460-121 Hawks Nest section to Grundy. In July 2015, the Federal Highway Administration also approved the location of Alternative F1 Modified and indicated that the project could proceed to subsequent development. Based on the construction cost analyses, Corridor Q/Section IIIB Overlap was split into two phases (A and B). VDOT’s Central Office environmental section conducted a Reevaluation of the social, economic, and environmental impacts of Corridor Q Overlap (Poplar Creek) Phase B on the local community and surrounding area. The Reevaluation is available on the project website, and representatives from VDOT are available to discuss this information and to answer questions.

The Poplar Creek Phase B project will continue to be coordinated with the appropriate federal, state, and local agencies as part of environmental approval processes required throughout the remaining project development and during construction. All required environmental clearances and permits will be obtained prior to the commencement of construction. Strict compliance with all environmental conditions of regulatory approval and implementation of VDOT’s best management practices will protect the environment during construction.

Anticipated Schedule

The following schedule has been proposed:

- Design Public Hearing** – May 2021
- Right of Way Acquisition** – July 2021
- Construction** – September 2021

Civil Rights

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information in regards to your civil rights on this project or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Civil Rights Manager Mary Ann Altum at the phone number listed on the back of this brochure.

Right of Way

The construction of Route 460/121 Poplar Creek Phase B project will require the displacement of nine families, four businesses, and no non-profit organizations. As we finalize the design, additional easements for utility relocation and right of way may be required beyond the proposed right of way shown on the public hearing plans. Property owners will be informed of the exact location of the right of way and easements during the right of way acquisition process and prior to construction.

Information about right of way purchase is discussed in VDOT’s brochure, “Right of Way and Utilities: a Guide for Property Owners and Tenants,” available on the project website. After this meeting, information regarding right of way may be obtained by contacting the Project Manager listed on the back of this brochure.

Get Involved

Ten days after this public hearing, on May 28, 2021, the public comment period will close. VDOT will review and evaluate any information received as a result of this meeting.

This information, including the meeting summary, will be available for review at the VDOT office address listed below. After all comments have been addressed, the information received as a result of the meeting will be presented to the Commonwealth Transportation Board to consider the proposed location. If a location is approved by the CTB, the major design features will then be presented to VDOT’s Chief Engineer or designee for approval.

Comments may be submitted via email to bristolinfo@VDOT.Virginia.gov. Please reference “Poplar Creek Phase B” in the subject line.

Project plans, property impact information, relocation assistance policies, and tentative construction schedules are available on the project website or available for in person review by appointment. For additional information contact Laura Beth Hale at 276-698-0085, 1-800-367-7623, or TTY/TDD 711. You may also contact Rick Lively, Consultant Right of Way Manager, at 276-880-0121.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Laura Beth Hale	Project Manager	2111 Bonham Rd Bristol, VA 24201	276-696-3322	laura.hale@vdot.virginia.gov
Preston Breeding, PE	Design Manager	135 Highland Dr Lebanon, VA 24266	276-880-0121	pbreeding@3bcs.com
Mary Ann Altum	Bristol District Office of Civil Rights	2111 Bonham Rd Bristol, VA 24201	276-696-3244	maryann.altum@vdot.virginia.gov
Michelle Earl	Bristol District Office of Public Affairs	2111 Bonham Rd Bristol, VA 24201	276-696-3283	michelle.earl@vdot.virginia.gov



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Location and Design Public Hearing
Corridor Q: Route 460/121
Poplar Creek Phase B
(Buchanan County)
Tuesday, May 18, 2021, 5 p.m.
Inclement Weather Date: May 24, 2021
<https://www.virginiadot.org/PoplarCreekPhaseB>

Public Meeting

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation’s (VDOT) location and design public hearing for the Corridor Q: Route 460/121 Poplar Creek Phase B project in Buchanan County.

The project begins at the east end of Route 460/121 Poplar Creek Phase A Section near Route 604 (Poplar Creek Road) and ends at existing Route 460 in Grundy. The project includes a proposed bridge that crosses the Levisa Fork River and an at-grade intersection with existing Route 460. The project will involve a break in limited access.

This virtual public meeting is being held to provide an opportunity for any person, acting on his/her own

behalf or representing a group or governing agency, to give the department his or her comments and/or suggestions concerning the proposed project after reviewing the project information.

VDOT and its project partners strive to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation projects and programs affecting them.

Project team representatives are present to discuss the project and answer your questions.

Project Description



Route 460 north of Grundy, VA

- Cost** – \$200 million
- Purpose** – New construction of limited access highway
- From** – east end of Route 460/121 Poplar Creek – Phase A Section, near State Route 604
- To** – Route 460, north of Grundy
- Total length** – 1.86 miles